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No yellow fever in San Salvador.

CONSULAR SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES,
San Salvador, June 17, 1899.

SIR: In accordance with the instructions received from the Department of State, I have the honor to report that very few cases of yellow fever have occurred since last August, when I was attacked by it. At the present time no cases have been reported for more than two months, with every indication that it has been stamped out, or rather it has died out.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN JENKINS,
United States Consul.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

TURKEY.

Sanitary reports from Constantinople.

[Report No. 221.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, *June 22, 1899.*

BUBONIC PLAGUE IN ALEXANDRIA.

SIR: Bubonic plague in Alexandria is still occupying very seriously the Ottoman sanitary authorities. The official reports state that up to the 20th instant 32 cases have occurred, of which 13 proved fatal. It is to be noticed that the authorities of Alexandria do know only of the plague cases which are treated at the hospitals. The 20th instant, for instance, 2 dead bodies of persons who died from bubonic plague have been found in the streets of Alexandria. Said 2 cases were unknown to the sanitary authorities, neither is it known how long they had been ill. The Ottoman sanitary commissioner to the Alexandria International Sanitary Commission, Dr. Duca, reports that many other cases had occurred in Alexandria before the one reported on May 2. Among said cases is that of a Greek who fell ill April 6. He entered the hospital and presented not only high fever and drowsiness but a bubo. The hospital physicians did not suspect at that time the existence of plague, and they made the diagnosis of adenitis. He got well and went for his convalescence to his own country, Volos, in Greece. Dr. Duca, the above-mentioned Ottoman sanitary commissioner, writes that according to his own inquiries on the subject of the first outbreak of plague in Alexandria, he found out that a Jew, accompanying some women of bad morals, had arrived from Bombay in the beginning of the month of April and had taken a lodging at the quarter of Hamamil, where the plague case reported May 2 occurred. Three-fourths of the plague cases reported among Europeans occur among Greeks in Egypt. The reason is that the Greek colony in Egypt is the larger one, and the patients are servants serving in groceries, where there are many rats. The population of Alexandria is uneasy and is flying away.

SANITARY STEPS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE EPIDEMIC.

The Turkish Government submit to ten days quarantine all persons who come from Egypt. This was the decision taken at the beginning of the plague epidemic in the latter country, but now that the popu-

lation of Alexandria is flying away, as I have already mentioned, the Turkish authorities at Beirut, as well as the population of said town, where there is a lazaretto, are afraid that the crowding of said lazaretto by persons coming from Egypt would be a real danger, and would spread the epidemic. Therefore the Turkish authorities, as well as the consular agents of said town of Beirut, have requested that steps should be taken in order to prevent not only the spread of the epidemic but calm the population. Besides said reports the central authorities, as well as the Turkish National Sanitary Commission, considering the danger, take new steps for the defense of the country.

I have proposed, for instance, at the next to last sitting, to give to the sanitary officials orders and instructions for the disinfection by formalin where there is no disinfecting apparatus by steam. Dr. Stekoulis, the Dutch sanitary commissioner, has communicated a method of procedure for the authorities, in case of the appearance in Turkey of bubonic plague. He proposes the complete isolation of the house where plague has made its appearance. The patient will be also isolated and will be treated by the Yersin serum injection. The persons who attend the patient can not go out of the patient's room except after disinfection.

All persons who live in said house will be vaccinated, and their wearing apparel as well as the furniture will be thoroughly disinfected without excluding for said disinfection—burning. The floor of the room, as well as that of all the houses, will be watered with boiling hot water in order to destroy the insects. The virulent excreta will be treated with antiseptics. The other rooms of the house will be disinfected by formalin. Whenever dead rats are found in the house they should be plunged in Laplace solution (sulphuric and carbolic acid). Once the patient gets well, he will be allowed to communicate with other people only after the sputa or the pus coming from the bubo no longer present any danger of spreading the disease. If the case prove fatal, the dead body will be buried with all the sanitary precautions. Once everything is over, the room, the belongings, and the wearing apparel as well as the furniture of the house will be again thoroughly disinfected; and only five days after said second disinfection, the inmates may be allowed to communicate with other people.

It will be allowed the physicians who attend said patients to be in free communication, only when they are able to thoroughly disinfect themselves. Bacteriological examinations will be performed in the patient's room. All these steps proposed by Dr. Stekoulis are very good, but it would be better if the sanitary condition of the cities in Turkey were better or could be improved. Constantinople, for instance, is as dirty as it is possible to fancy, and certainly the provincial cities, are not less dirty. It is not yet understood that asepsis is more effective than antiseptics. In order to prevent the crowding of the lazarettos, the sanitary commission met again yesterday in consequence of an order of His Majesty the Sultan, and it has been decided to raise the quarantine time from ten to twelve days. It has been decided also not to receive parcels by mail.

I inclose herein a French copy of the decisions taken by said International Sanitary Commission.

SANITARY NEWS FROM TURKISH PROVINCES.

The sanitary news from the Turkish Provinces is good. There are no more pilgrims in Djiddah nor in Yambo. The question of the sanitary defense of the Province of Nedjid (Persian Gulf) is taken into consideration and studied by the International Sanitary Commission.

Said question is very difficult, because not only in the Nedjid coast there is no harbor nor mooring place but the seashore is unhealthy and excessively vast. The sanitary physicians at Mecca report that during the pilgrimage in Mina 2 pilgrims have died at the latter town from plague.

DEATH RATE IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

The number of deaths registered in Constantinople from the 9th to the 19th instant is 406, of which 4 are from smallpox, 7 from diphtheria, 7 from measles, 9 from typhoid fever, and 31 from acute inflammation of the lungs.

Respectfully, yours,

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO,
U. S. Sanitary Commissioner.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Report No. 222.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, *June 29, 1899.*

SIR: The number of plague cases registered in Alexandria since the beginning of the epidemic, i. e., from May 2 to the 26th instant, is 42, of which 17 proved fatal. There is not the slightest doubt but that this number is far from being the real one. It is ascertained that only those cases treated in the hospitals are registered. The Alexandria authorities do not know the other plague cases which are hidden. The Ottoman sanitary commissioner at Alexandria writes that it has been rumored that many rats were found dead in the streets of Alexandria. The sanitary authorities tried to find said rats, and promised that 5 Egyptian piasters would be paid to whoever would bring the carcass of a dead rat. A few days later one or two carcasses of dead rats were brought, but on examining them it was found that their deaths were not caused by plague.

At the last sitting of the International Sanitary Commission of Constantinople it was announced that very serious irregularities have occurred at the lazaretto of Beirut. The cause of these irregularities is the lack of skill, cleverness, and ability of the sanitary physician appointed there two or three weeks ago. (See my report of June 1.) At the last sitting of the sanitary commission I remarked that I had objected to the appointment of said physician, but the other members of the commission did not want to agree with my opinion. Now it has been decided to provide the office of Beirut with another sanitary physician. Meanwhile, many ships coming from Egypt have landed their passengers, as well as their cargo, without any previous quarantine or disinfection. That is worse than sanitary smuggling.

At the last sitting of the International Sanitary Commission it was decided to consider the question of the importation of vegetables and animals from Egypt. The importation of the latter has been forbidden. The population of Smyrna as well as that of Beirut has made complaints and expressed the desire to see that the importation of vegetables and fruits from Egypt should be forbidden.

The Ottoman sanitary commission at Teheran writes from the latter place that the public health in Persia is good except Bushire, and that the danger of dearth has nearly disappeared because of the good crops, which seem to be very abundant.

The public health in the capital of the Turkish Empire is rather good. Nothing special to be noticed, except the high heat of the last four or five days. The temperature of the atmosphere rose to 39° C.

In the beginning of the month of June there was rejoicing among the Moslem population of our town. The son of His Majesty the Sultan was to be circumcised, according to the Moslem religion, and as it is the custom on said occasion, the boys who were to undergo said circumcision did it at the expense of the Sovereign. The number of boys circumcised was about 12,000, who were operated on at the different military and civil hospitals of the capital. Among those 12,000 there have been very few whose wound presented the consequences of septic infection. The ages of said boys is from 5 to 15 years. One or two were more than 15 years old. On said occasion a new hospital for children was opened.

I forward a French copy of the last decision of the International Sanitary Commission, as well as a communication of the English Sanitary Commissioners, concerning the financial condition of employees of the sanitary board, as well as the financial history and regulations of the latter.

Respectfully, yours,

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO,
United States Sanitary Commissioner.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

[Translated in the Bureau from official copies.]

CIRCULAR.

CONSTANTINOPLE, *June 22, 1899.*

By decision of the superior council of health, vessels arriving from Egypt having undergone quarantine of eleven days at the lazaretto of Delos, Greece, and having had their holds disinfected and sealed, may land their cargoes of grain destined for Constantinople in lighters at the lazaretto of Monastir-Aghzri or at that of Touzla.

COZZONIS, *Inspector-General.*

Circular telegrams to health offices, dated June 28, 1899.

By decision of the superior council of health, live animals arriving from Egypt shall, until further orders, be refused entry at ports of the Ottoman Empire.

COZZONIS,
Inspector-General.

By decision of the superior council of health, vessels having a clean bill of health shall be authorized, until further orders, to coal at Port Said on condition that the coaling be done under the surveillance of the Ottoman authorities and without any communication whatever with the locality circumstantially mentioned in the bill of health.

COZZONIS,
Inspector-General.

By decision of the superior council of health, the following modification is attached to the circular of June 20 relative to rejection of Chiite pilgrims and corpses arriving in Mesopotamia from Persia:

Said rejection is applicable only to arrivals from the littoral of the Persian Gulf, as far as Mohamara, inclusive.

COZZONIS,
Inspector-General.

Instructions relative to disinfection of postal bags coming from places infected with cholera, plague, or yellow fever, to be put in force at the quarantine stations of the Ottoman Empire.

1. Postal bags arriving from countries infected with cholera, plague, or yellow fever must be coated with tar to be accepted, and can be received only at the lazarettos.

2. They shall be opened, and letters, packages of letters, packets, and newspapers poured into boxes hermetically sealed and specially adapted to the purpose, and shall, unopened, be subjected to the action of vapor of formal for a period of twelve hours.

3. Bags, valises, etc., in which the mail was contained shall be disinfected at the same time and by vapor of formal.

4. The disinfection shall be performed by means of the Schering apparatus. Two formalin pastilles shall be used for every cubic meter of space.

Teskeré of the first secretary of the imperial palace to the health department, dated June 20, read at special session of the superior council of health, June 21, 1899.

Having been informed of the recrudescence of plague at Alexandria, and taking into consideration the inconveniences presented by the lazaretto of Beirut by the possible infection of the said city, and the consuls at Beirut having also taken measures in this regard, the governor-general of Beirut submits the necessity of causing passengers arriving from Alexandria to undergo disinfection at the lazaretto after having completed their quarantine on board, or else of directing such passengers to repair to the lazaretto of Klazomenes.

Therefore, and with the view of preventing the propagation of the disease, His Imperial Majesty the Sultan orders that the superior council of health promptly take action in this matter as well as in the matter of increasing the period of quarantine imposed against arrivals from Egypt. In addition, His Majesty the Sultan orders that postal matter be disinfected.

TAHSIN.

Circular telegrams to health officers in Mesopotamia.

No. 1.

JUNE 20, 1899.

By decision of the superior council of health postal packages arriving from Egypt are rejected at ports of the Ottoman Empire.

COZZONIS,
Inspector-General.

No. 2.

JUNE 21, 1899.

By decision of the superior council of health Chiite pilgrims and corpses arriving from Persia are forbidden entrance into Mesopotamia until further orders.

COZZONIS,
Inspector-General.

No. 3.

By decision of the superior council of health the quarantine of eight days imposed on arrivals from Egypt is increased for all departures after June 21 to twelve days.

COZZONIS,
Inspector-General.

Plan of Teskeré to be addressed by the sanitary administration to the Grand Vizier.

The superior council of health having judged it necessary to extend the quarantine of eight days imposed against the littoral of the Persian Gulf, and particularly applicable to arrivals from Bahrein, decided not to accept arrivals from Nedjid. This decision, although communicated to the vilayet of Bassorah, has had no practical result. The littoral of Nedjid being very extensive and its communication with Bahrein constant, it has been recognized as an impossibility to reject vessels arriving thence and to send them into Bassorah. On the other hand, plague continues to prevail at Bombay and Kurrachee, and it has lately found a lodgment at Bender-Bushire, which is in close proximity to the littoral of Nedjid. This littoral, therefore, has acquired considerable importance from a sanitary point of view, which necessitates the putting into vigorous action of quarantine measures against the craft frequenting these shores.

The council has, therefore, decided, after mature deliberation, to proceed to the immediate reopening of the lazaretto of Adjir and to send thither a physician and the necessary personnel. Kouet and Ratif have also for some time past been provided each with a sanitary officer, and it is proposed to station an officer and a guard at Kattor. Vessels arriving from the Indies, Bahrein, and Persia at ports in the Ottoman littoral of the Persian Gulf as far as Kouet will be sent to the lazaretto at Bassorah, and those coming from the localities just named will be stopped at the lazaretto of Adjir, there to

undergo the regular ten days' quarantine. In addition, 2 boats, having on board sanitary agents, shall be detached from the imperial fleet at Bassorah with orders to protect the Nedjian littoral and to patrol it continually from Kouet to Kattor. The agents stationed on these boats shall examine the sanitary papers of all steamers, sailing vessels, and other craft which they encounter in their patrol course, and in case of a vessel or boat coming from contaminated localities it shall be immediately sent to one of the lazarettos named above.

Your highness is requested to notify the Vali of Bassorah by telegraph of these measures, and at the same time to authorize the minister of marine to order the naval boats mentioned herein to the littoral of the Hedjaz.

Quarantine measures in Austria.

The delegate of Austria reported, June 17, that his Government had ordered a quarantine of observation of ten days, comprising the duration of the voyage, for arrivals from Egypt, together with disinfection according to the requirements of the Venice convention.

Quarantine measures in France.

[Telegram from Paris dated June 19, 1899.]

Arrivals from all Egyptian ports are subject in France to the decree of April 15, 1899, and section 7, of sanitary maritime police regulations of January 4, 1899, based on requirements of the Venice convention. The period of detention required in article 56 of these regulations is extended to twelve days, and a period of ten days is substituted for that of seven days in articles 57, 59, and 60.

FOREIGN STATISTICAL REPORTS.

AFRICA—*Lorenzo Marquez*.—Month of May, 1899. Estimated population, 4,902. Total number of deaths, 46, including one from phthisis pulmonalis.

BAHAMAS—*Dunmore*.—Two weeks ended July 7, 1899. Estimated population, 1,472. No deaths and no contagious diseases.

Governors Harbor.—Week ended July 8. Estimated population, 1,500. No deaths and no contagious diseases.

Green Turtle Cay.—Two weeks ended July 6. Estimated population, 3,900. No deaths and no contagious diseases.

Nassau.—Two weeks ended July 8. Estimated population, 12,000. Number of deaths not reported. No contagious diseases reported.

CHILE—*Antofagasta*.—Month of May, 1899. Estimated population, 14,000. Total number of deaths, 50, including 1 from phthisis pulmonalis.

FRANCE—*Nice*.—Month of May, 1899. Estimated population, 108,227. Total number of deaths, 164, including diphtheria, 2; enteric fever, 1; measles, 5; whooping cough, 1, and 20 from phthisis pulmonalis.

GERMANY—*Kehl*.—Month of May, 1899. Estimated population, 143,000. Total number of deaths, 253, including diphtheria, 3; scarlet fever, 2; measles, 1, and 1 from whooping cough.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales*.—The deaths registered in 33 great towns in England and Wales during the week ended July 1, 1899, correspond to an annual rate of 15.7 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 11,404,408. The highest rate was recorded in Gateshead, viz, 22.5, and the lowest in Swansea, viz, 13.1.